

JUN 14 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Andrew Frank

Title: BUS CONTROL MODULE FOR IMPROVING LEGACY SUPPORT

Docket No.: 977.039US2

Filed: April 18, 2001

Examiner:

Serial No.: 09/837,626

Due Date: N/A

Group Art Unit: 2181

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JUN 25 2002

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

- ☒ A return postcard.
☒ Preliminary Amendment, with Clean Version of Pending Claims (11 Pages).

If an additional fee is required due to changes to the claims, the fee has been calculated as follows:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(1) Claims Remaining After Amendment		(2) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(3) Present Extra	Rate	Fee
TOTAL CLAIMS	53	-	51	2	x 18 =	\$36.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	6	-	4	2	x 84 =	\$168.00
[] MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED						\$0.00
TOTAL						\$204.00

**PLEASE CHARGE FEE OF \$204.00 FOR ADDITIONAL CLAIMS TO
DEPOSIT ACCT. 19-0743.**

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional required fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 5 day of June, 2002.

Candis B. Buending

Name

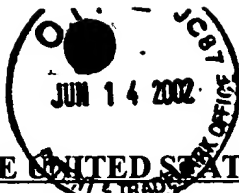
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SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.
(GENERAL)

P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (612-373-6900)

S/N 09/837,626



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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The substitute claim set is intended to reflect amendment of previously pending claims 1, 14, 15, 32, and 36-43, and addition of new claims 52-53. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

1. (Amended) A device, comprising:
a backplane with at least one expansion slot and with an upstream connector for connecting with a computer via a serial bus, wherein the device is external to the computer; and
at least one expansion card for coupling with the expansion slot, the expansion card including at least one port to provide an interface with the computer.
14. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the control module includes a port for providing a serial communication link to a computer.
15. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the communication link includes a USB link and further includes power.
32. (Amended) A system comprising:
a legacy free personal computer (PC);
a housing containing an uninterruptible power supply (UPS), a bus monitor and control

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